

# SPOKES



## 2011 Annual General Meeting Friends Meeting House, Canterbury 5 December 2011

**Chair:** Steve Fawke

**Present:** David Godsell, Jeff Lyle, David Pentin, Kim de Min, Barham, Christine de Caires, Roy Taylor, Rob Wheeler, Andrew Fenyo, Isabelle Cornet, Andrew Heywood, Paul Rees, David Taylor, Nick Calcutt, Dave Wall, Liz Wall, Robert Barker, Susan Shaw, Nerolie Smith, Jeanne Taylor, Derek Ray, Pip Chapelard, Eileen Butler, Douglas Bush, Moira Bush, Carl Kempton, Sam Webb, John Hunt, Ray Bissil, Helen Bennington, Ian Rogers, Alison Rogers, Anthony Purchase, Adrian Oliver, Steve Fawke, Gregory Williams, Rosie Swale Pope MBE

**Apologies:** Terry Croft (Treasurer), Ben Knox (Vice-Chairman), Simon Allum, Jean Baker, Cllr Alan Baldock, Julian Brazier MP, Sheila Flynn, Cllr Nick Eden Green & Ian Killbery

### 1. 2010 AGM

Minutes from the previous AGM held on 9 December 2010 were approved.

### 2. Election of Officers

The Chairman and Committee were re-elected.

Gregory Williams was approved as Planning Application Secretary.

New Region Liaison roles were created. The following were elected:

- Ian Killbery (for Dover district liaison)
- Paul Rees (for Shepway district liaison)
- James Shaughnessy, Doug & Moira Bush (for Thanet district liaison)
- Liz Wall & David Wall (for Medway district liaison)

### 3. Finance

The Accounts for the year ending 31 May 2011 were presented. Notable points were:

- 10% drop in Membership income
- £5,000 contribution from East Kent PCT
- New income generated from Events
- 50% rise in printing costs
- Purchase of a new marquee
- Rise in Hospitality costs due to BWoK

The Accounts were Accepted.

### 4. Membership

The Membership Secretary, Tony Purchase, reported that membership numbers dropped, however there is growth outside of the Canterbury area. Tony announced the launch of the new Membership Card that will give members discounts at particular outlets. There's a continued emphasis on capturing members' email addresses in order that Spokes can keep them abreast of issues that maybe arising in their specific locations in a timely manner.

### 5. Developments

Steve Fawke reviewed the developments over the last year:

- Horses & Goats tunnel opened, but signage has only recently been installed and lighting and CCTV has yet to be completed

- Great Stour Way officially opened and has been very popular. There are two resting points part funded by Spokes. (One in place, another to be installed shortly). A new leaflet is due to be published shortly.
- M20 cycle / pedestrian bridge opened after a 6 month delay
- NCR2 beside Port Lympne / Royal Military Canal extended
- Pilgrims' Cycle Trail opened and is a good 44 mile ride on a Mountain Bike
- New cycle route signs erected in Canterbury, however these need improving
- Construction of the River Dour Greenway continued and Spokes consulted on a further phase.
- Public consultation for Phase 2 of Oyster Bay Trail (Swalecliffe to Whitstable) will take place over Christmas and January.
- Major consultation work being undertaken on two key Canterbury projects, the Riverside Shared Path Route and the Canterbury West redevelopment
- Questions asked and responses published for all 798 candidates in the May 2011 elections in Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway, Swale, and Thanet. 22% response rate.
- Participated in consultations for various speed limit reductions
- Spokes is now a partner with Explore Kent.
- Submitted representations on 66 planning applications
- Spokes ran a workshop at the CycleNation conference in Sheffield in October.
- Spokes are continuing to participate in the local Connect2 partnership.
- Spokes attended meetings for the creation of a cross-Sheppey cycle route.
- Spokes attended presentations by 20's Plenty, Living Streets, and Sustrans.

## 6. Cycle Census

Steve Fawke briefly reviewed this year's census results, which showed a 16.7% rise in cyclists over the 2010 survey. In addition:

- Numbers were greatly improved on the Great Stour Way
- Numbers poor through Horses & Goats Tunnel (at the time the route wasn't signposted and members were generally unaware that it has been opened).
- Marked increase (+39%) in cyclists using Station Road West. Perhaps because of the extra cycle parking installed at the station.

## 7. Events

Steve Fawke reported that Spokes had been all over the place this year, attending some 19 events to promote the cause of cycling. The additional new gazebo has been very successful.

## 8. Rides

Monthly rides continued throughout the year, the most popular ride being the French trip.

## 9. The Big Wheel of Kent

Ben Knox was thanked for his work, commitment and for delivering another successful BWoK in June 2011. There were more rides, more music, more stands and more charities. However, the weather deterred many cyclists from taking part. Planning for BWoK 2012 is underway but there are some key decisions to be made:

- Move BWoK to July?
- Merge it with KCC Bike Week?
- Strong alignment with the Cycle Forums?

A request was made for more volunteers to help run the event.

## 10. Close

The AGM closed with a "Thank You" to the Committee, the new committee members and to the members attending the AGM.